

REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 13, 2007, and following the filing of the Notice of Appeal dated September 11, 2007. Proposed amendments include amending the Title in accordance with the Examiner's objection, amending Claims 16 and 31 and canceling Claims 28-30. Upon entry of the proposed amendments, Claims 1-27 and 31-32 will be pending.

Objection to the Specification

In paragraph 3 of the present Office Action, the Examiner objects to the Specification for failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. Specifically, the Examiner states that there is not proper antecedent basis in the Specification for "a program element" of Claims 28-29 and for a "tangible computer-readable medium" of Claims 28-30. Applicants' proposed Amendment B cancels Claims 28-30, rendering moot the objection to the Specification. Upon entry of the proposed Amendment B, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the Specification be withdrawn.

Claim Objections

In paragraph 4 of the present Office Action, the Examiner objects to Claims 16-31 because it is unclear whether they are directed to statutory subject matter. Regarding the objection to Claims 16-27, the Examiner states the claims appear to be directed to a software tool for performing operations and that it is unclear whether the claim defines any structural and functional interrelationships between the software tool and other elements of a computer. Proposed Amendment B amends Claim 16 to more clearly define the functional interrelationships between the software tool and the other elements of the computer, thereby directing Claim 16 to statutory subject matter. Claims 17-27 depend from Claim 16 and are likewise more clearly defined. Upon entry of the proposed Amendment B, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claims 16-27 be withdrawn.

Regarding the objection to Claim 30, the Examiner suggests that the claims be directed to storage mediums as disclosed in the Specification. Proposed Amendment B amends Claim 30 as

recommended by the Examiner. Proper antecedent basis for the proposed amendment to Claim 30 is provided in the Specification on page 9 at lines 7-11:

A computer program for implementing various functions or for conveying information may be supplied on carrier media such as one or more DVD/CD-ROMs 46, floppy disks 48, and/or USB storage devices and then stored on a hard disk, for example.

Proper antecedent basis for the proposed amendment to Claim 30 is also provided in the Specification on page 7 at lines 18-23:

Memory 14 may include any one or combination of volatile memory elements (e.g., random access memory (RAM, such as DRAM, SRAM, SDRAM, etc.)) and non-volatile memory elements (e.g., ROM, hard drive, tape, CDROM, DVDROM, etc.). Memory 14 may incorporate electronic, magnetic, optical and/or other types of storage media.

Upon entry of proposed Amendment B, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to Claim 30 be withdrawn.

Regarding the objection to Claims 28-29 and 31, proposed Amendment B cancels those claims. Upon entry of proposed Amendment B, the objection to Claims 28-29 and 31 will be rendered moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 101

In paragraph 5 of the present Office Action, Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. Proposed Amendment B cancels Claim 31. Upon entry of Applicants' proposed amendments, the rejection of Claim 31 under 35 U.S.C. §101 be rendered moot.

CONCLUSION

Proposed Amendment B addresses the objections of the Examiner and the rejection of Claim 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Applicants' respectfully request that Amendment B be entered to place the application in better form for Appeal.

No additional fee is believed to be required. If, however, any additional fees are required for the prosecution of the present patent application, please charge those fees to **IBM CORPORATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. 09-0461**.

Respectfully submitted,



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